4
DYNAMITE
HOWARD CHAYKIN
THE SHADOW
MIDNIGHT IN MOSCOW

MIDNIGHT IN MOSCOW

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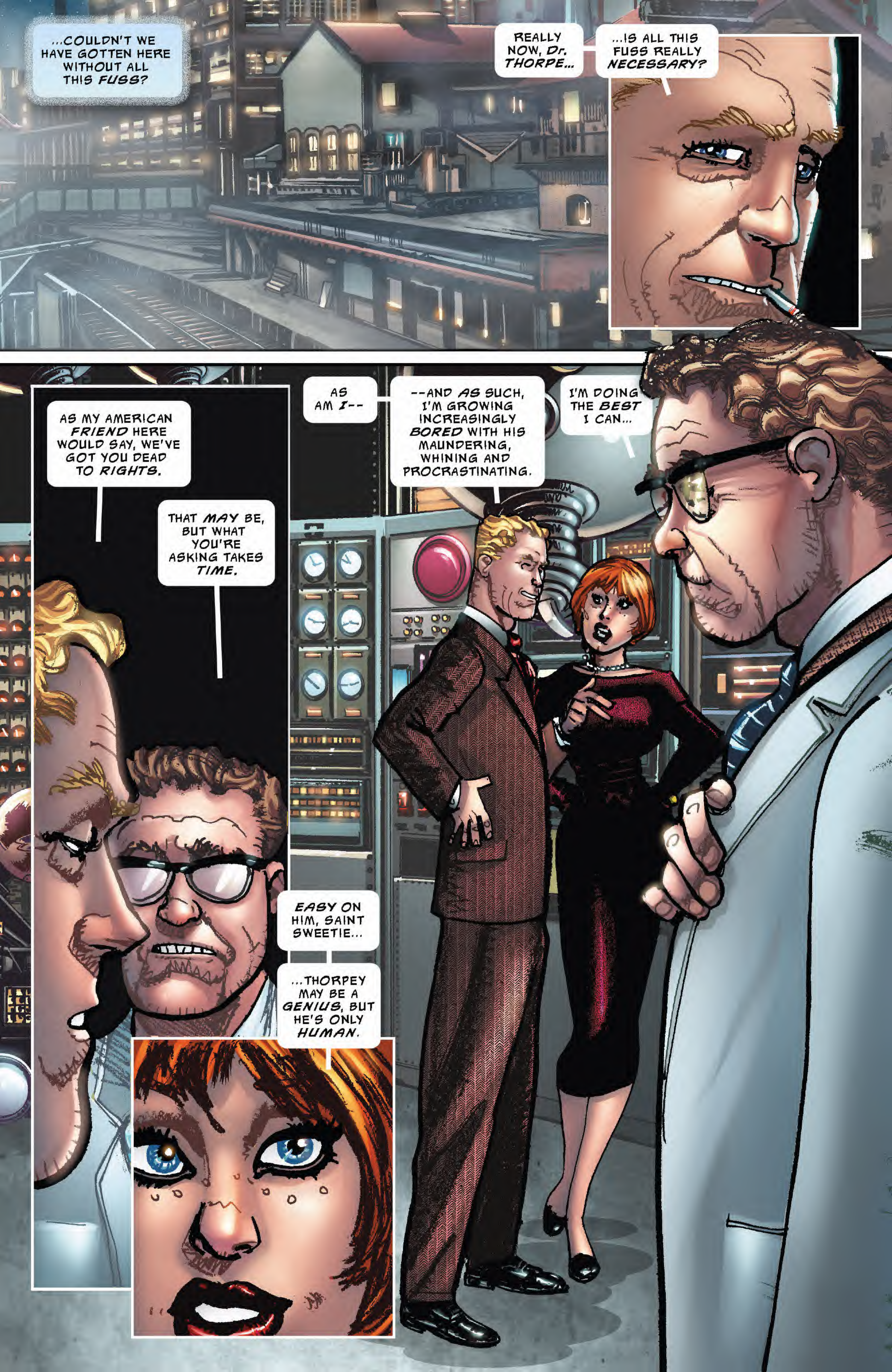
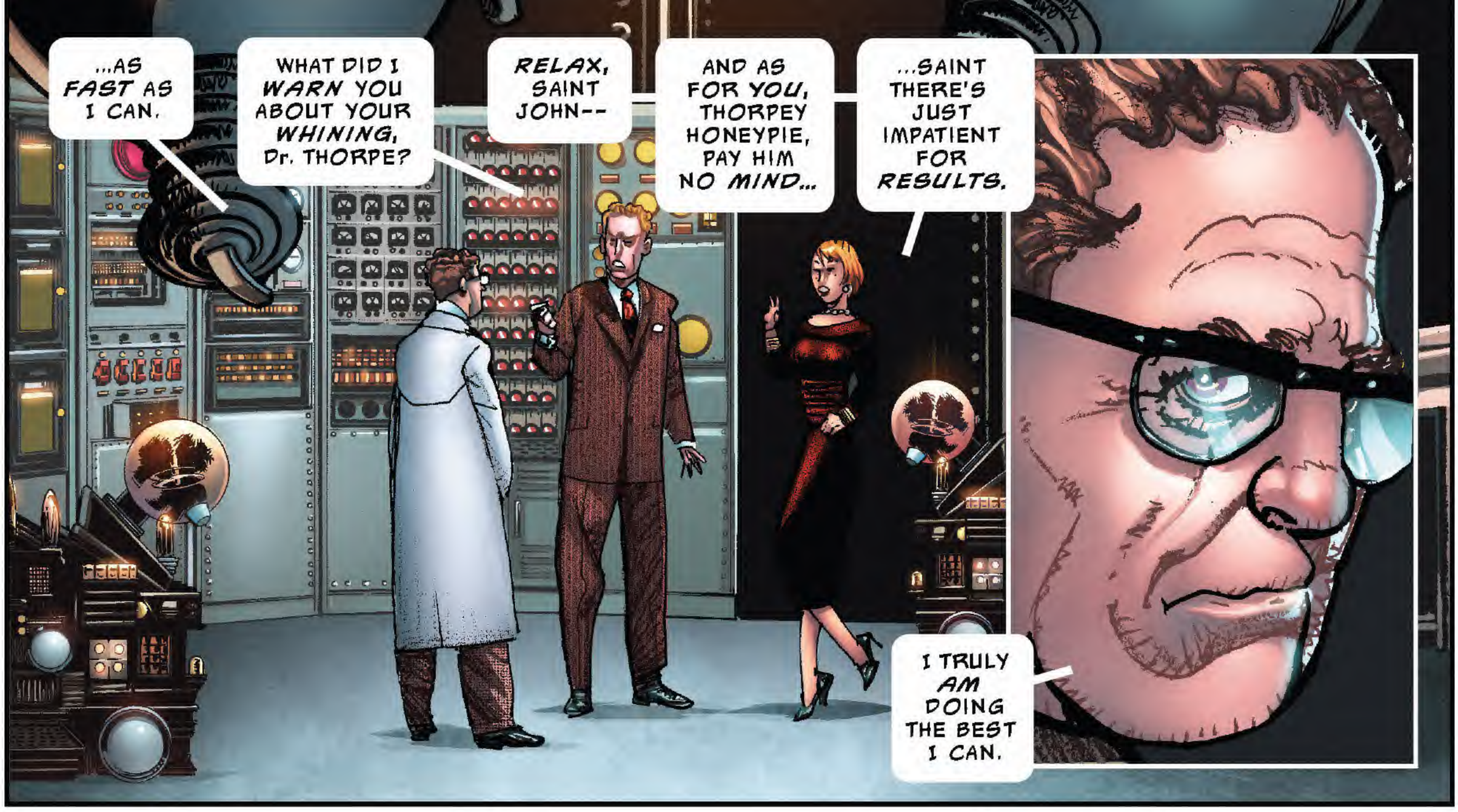
London...
...BARELY A WEEK AFTER THE NEW YEAR...
...THE DAWN OF A NEW DECADE.
Coca-Cola
REFRESHING
EVER READY BATTERIES for life!
TIME
TONIC
SCHWEPPES
AND WHILE PICCADILLY CIRCUS AND THE FABLED THEATERS OF THE WEST END STRUGGLE AND FLEETINGLY WIN...
...THE BATTLE TO PUSH BACK INTO RETREAT THE GRIM, GREY FRIGIDITY OF ENGLAND IN JANUARY.
THE DOCKLANDS, IN THE FARTHEST SOUTH-EASTERN CORNER OF THE GREAT CITY...
...SHIVER UNDER A BLEAK SKY MORE AT HOME IN THE LONDON OF CHARLES DICKENS AND ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON...
UNDERTAKING
ERBANCO
...THAN THAT OF GRAHAM GREENE AND EVELYN WAUGH.
THERE ARE RUMORS IN THE DOCKLANDS...
...RUMORS OF A CLOAKED FIGURE EMERGING FROM THE DARKNESS.
AND 'OO THE 'ELL'RE YOU SUPPOSED TO BE?

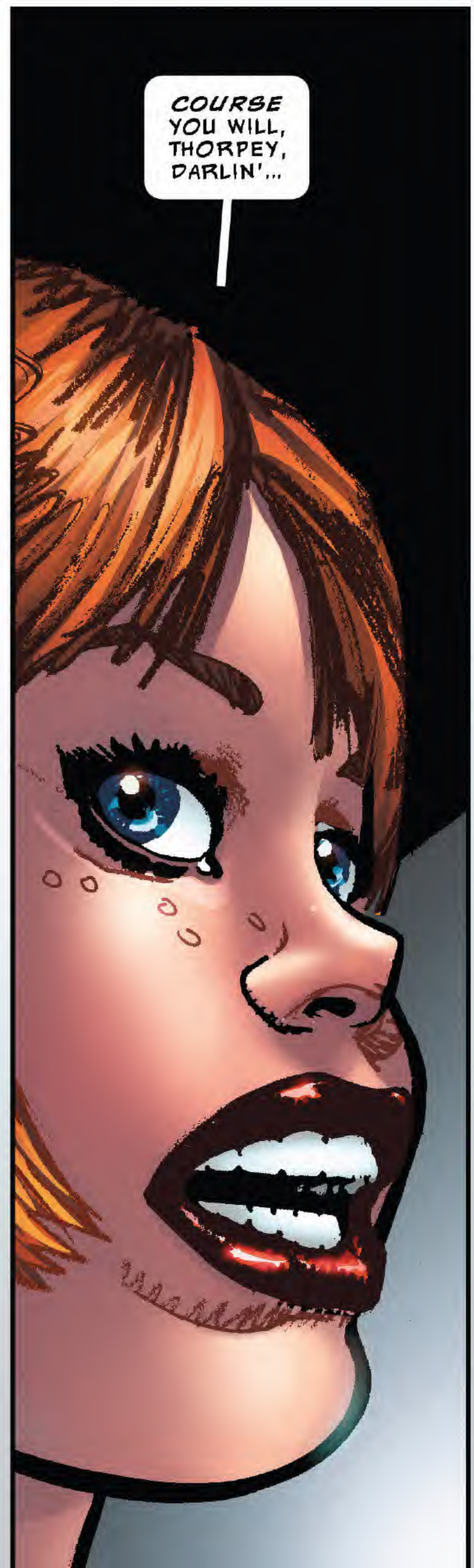
THE SHADOW
THE RUMORS ARE TRUE.
I AM EITHER YOUR WORST NIGHTMARE, OR THE LAST BEST FRIEND YOU'LL EVER HAVE OR NEED.
THE CHOICE IS YOURS.
I WILL ASK BUT ONCE MORE...
...WHO IS THE MAN WITH THE MONEY, THE MIND, AND THE MEANS TO DO WHAT I'VE DESCRIBED?
THE MAN YOU'RE LOOKIN' FOR IS KIKEY McSHEEN.
REALLY NOW...
MIDNIGHT IN MOSCOW
PART 4
Writer & Artist
HOWARD CHAYKIN
Colorist
JESUS ABURTO
Letterer
KEN BRUZENAK


...COULDN'T WE HAVE GOTTEN HERE WITHOUT ALL THIS FUSS?
REALLY NOW, Dr. THORPE...
...IS ALL THIS FUSS REALLY NECESSARY?
AS MY AMERICAN FRIEND HERE WOULD SAY, WE'VE GOT YOU DEAD TO RIGHTS.
THAT MAY BE, BUT WHAT YOU'RE ASKING TAKES TIME.
AS AM I--
--AND AS SUCH, I'M GROWING INCREASINGLY BORED WITH HIS MAUNDERING, WHINING AND PROCRASTINATING.
I'M DOING THE BEST I CAN...
EASY ON HIM, SAINT SWEETIE...
...THORPEY MAY BE A GENIUS, BUT HE'S ONLY HUMAN.


...AS FAST AS I CAN.
WHAT DID I WARN YOU ABOUT YOUR WHINING, Dr. THORPE?
RELAX, SAINT JOHN--
AND AS FOR YOU, THORPEY HONEYPIE, PAY HIM NO MIND...
...SAINT THERE'S JUST IMPATIENT FOR RESULTS.
I TRULY AM DOING THE BEST I CAN.

AND AS FAR AS I CAN SEE, YOUR BEST IS NONE TOO GOOD.
ANY TIME YOU WANT YOUR WIFE TO SEE THOSE SNAPSHOTS...
BUT...
..NO, PLEASE...!

...OR PERHAPS YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT YOUR SECURITY CLEARANCE?
I'M SORRY...
...I'LL DO AS YOU ASK.


COURSE YOU WILL, THORPEY, DARLIN'...

"...COURSE YOU WILL."

KIKEY McSHEEN WAS BORN ELI...

...TO AN IRISH CATHOLIC FATHER AND A RUSSIAN JEWISH MOTHER.

LONDONERS LOATHE THE IRISH...

...AND THEY'RE NONE TOO FOND OF THE JEWS, EITHER.

AFTER YEARS OF BEATINGS, AND ABUSE PHYSICAL, MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL, HE'S EVOLVED INTO AN INVISIBLE MAN...

...DEEPLY GRATEFUL TO BE IGNORED.

EVEN AS A BOY, KIKEY HAD DEXTROUS FINGERS...

...WHICH LED HIM TO A SHORT CAREER IN BREAKING AND ENTERING...

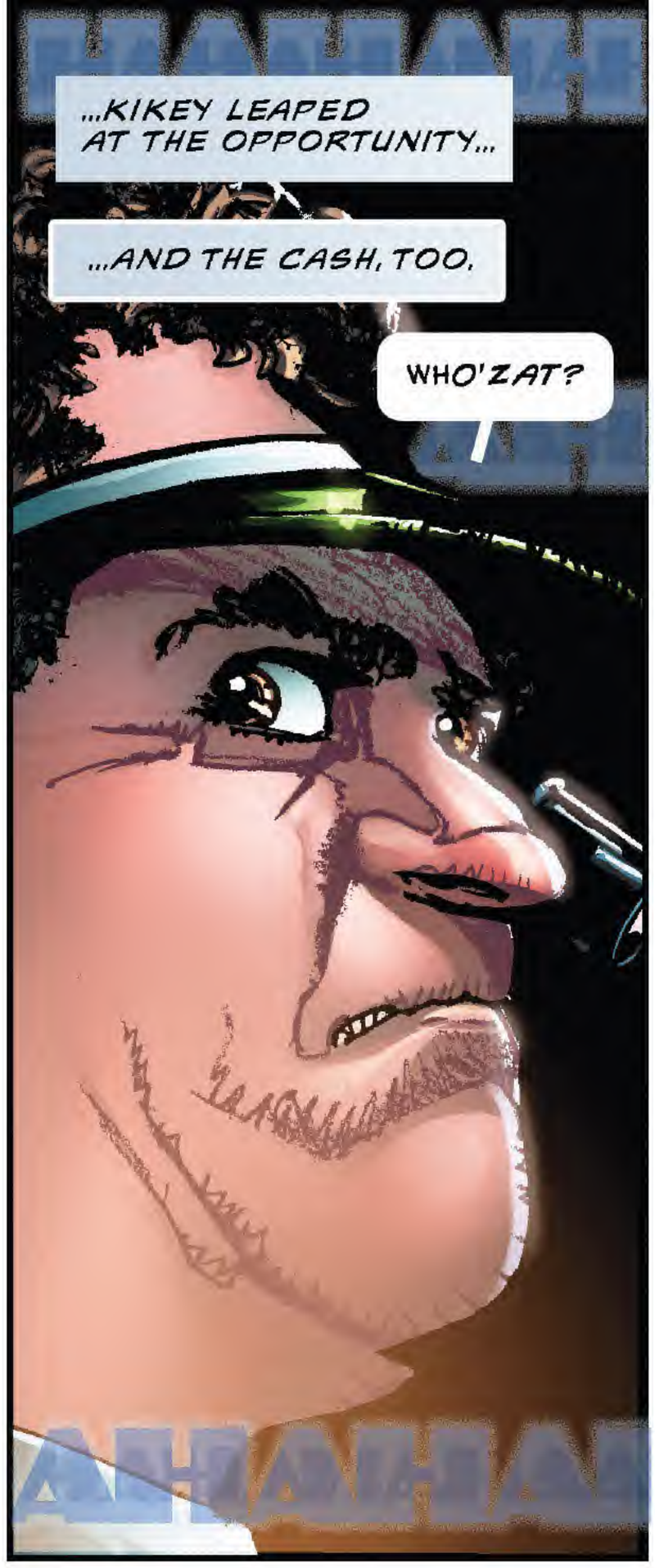
...WHICH LED, IN TURN, TO A THREE-YEAR SENTENCE FOR BREAKING AND ENTERING.

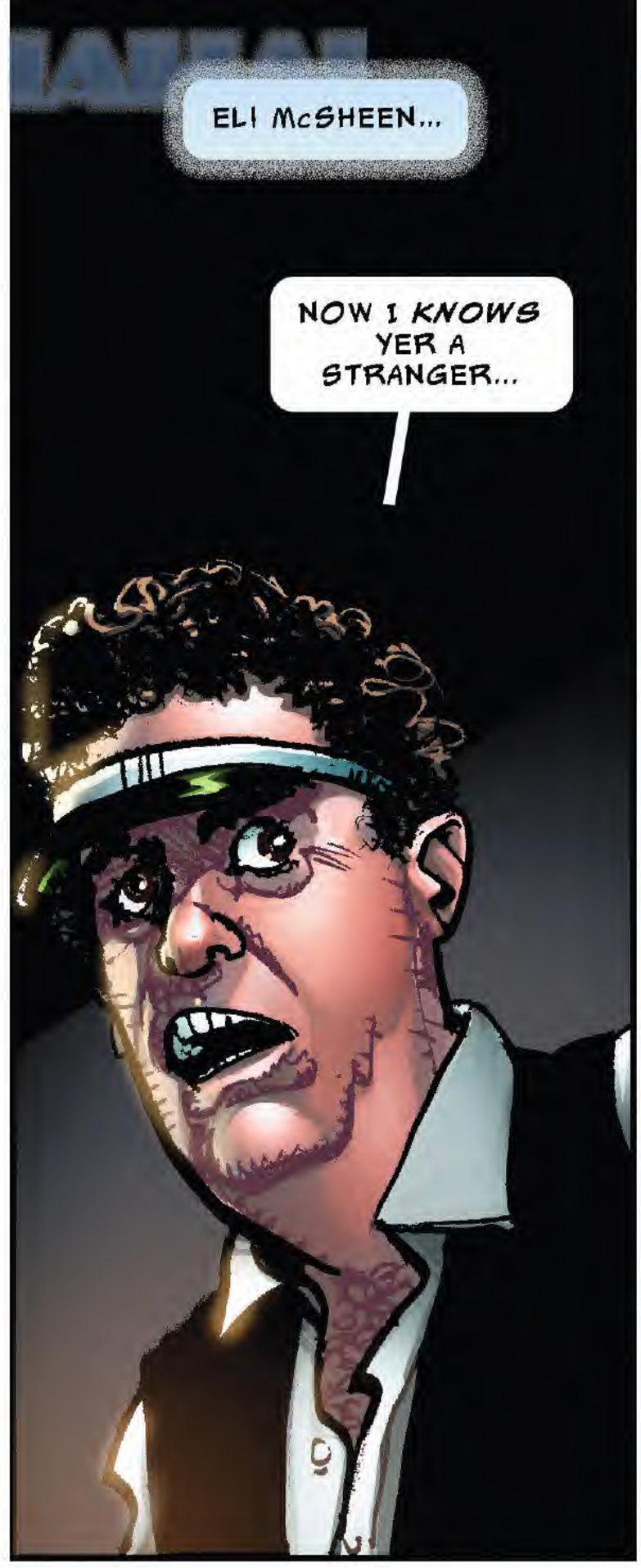
SINCE HIS RELEASE, KIKEY HAS BEEN LIVING A STRAIGHT LIFE, APPLYING THOSE SKILLED FINGERS TO HANDCRAFTING CHILDREN'S TOYS...

...BUT THE LARCENOUS LIFE STILL HAS AN ENORMOUS APPEAL TO THE LITTLE MAN.

SO WHEN THE AMERICAN GIRL WITH THE UNIMAGINABLE BOSOM AND UNINTELLIGIBLE ACCENT APPROACHED HIM...

...WITH A REQUEST TO CREATE A SERIES OF PECULIAR MINIATURES FOR NO APPARENT PURPOSE...

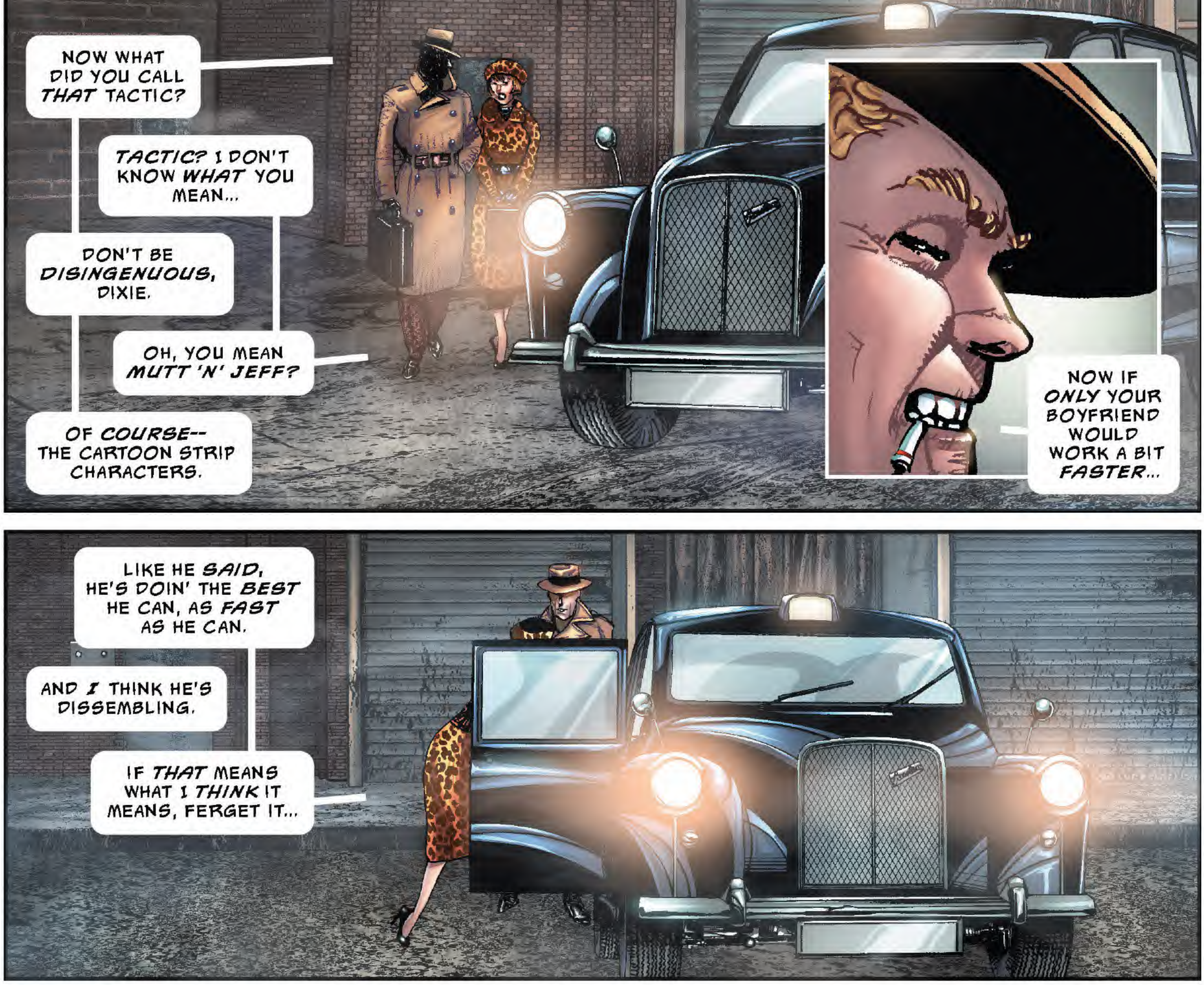

...KIKEY LEAPED AT THE OPPORTUNITY...
...AND THE CASH, TOO.
WHO'ZAT?


ELI McSHEEN...
NOW I KNOWS YER A STRANGER...

...CUZ NONE WHO KNOWS ME CALLS ME NUFFING BUT KIKEY.
AND HERE I THOUGHT I WAS TREATING YOU WITH A MEASURE OF RESPECT...

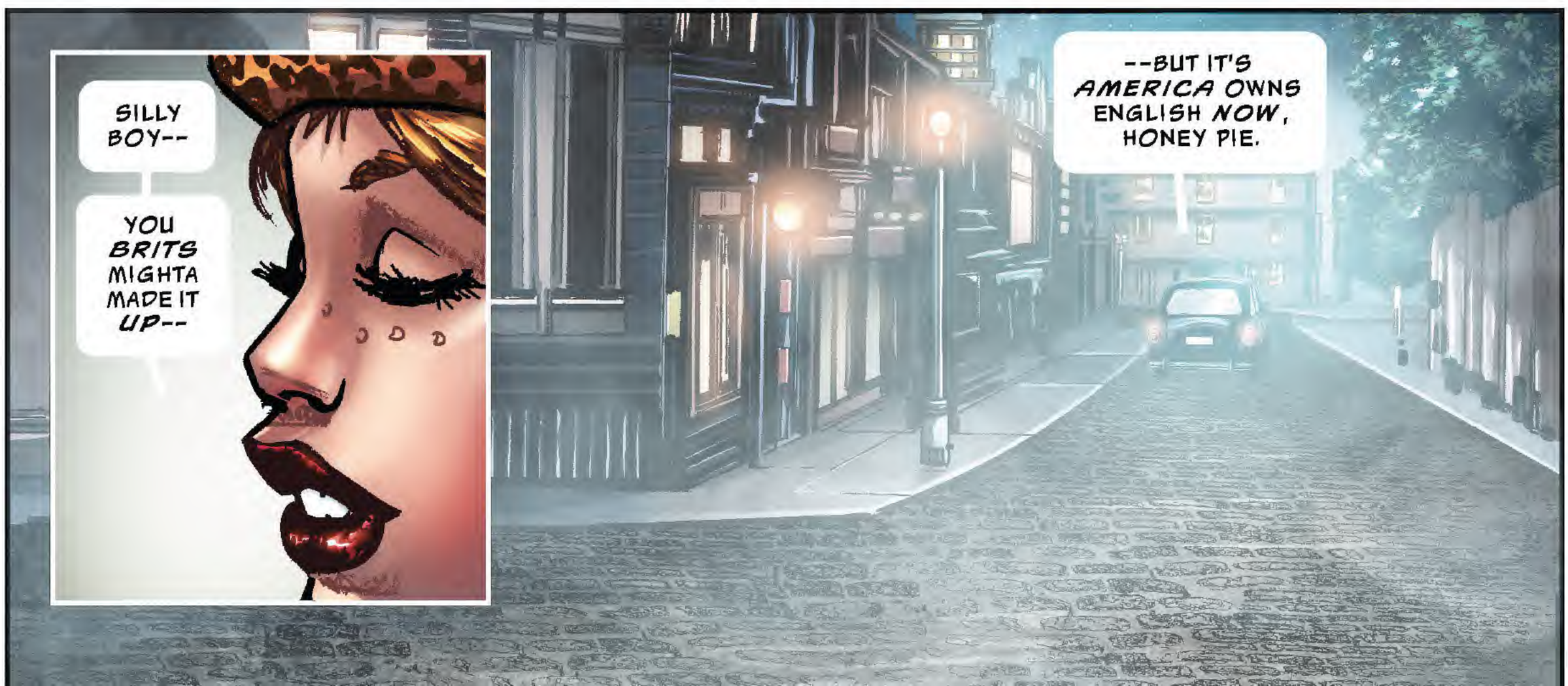
...A RESPECT YOU RETURN WITH A KNIFE AND THE THREAT IT CARRIES?
!?!?!
IT WOULD BEHOOVE YOU TO BE MORE AWARE OF WHOM YOU THREATEN.
WOT IN 'ELL ARE YOU, THEN?
BETTER MEN THAN YOU CALL ME THE SHADOW...
I'VE HEARD OF YOU...

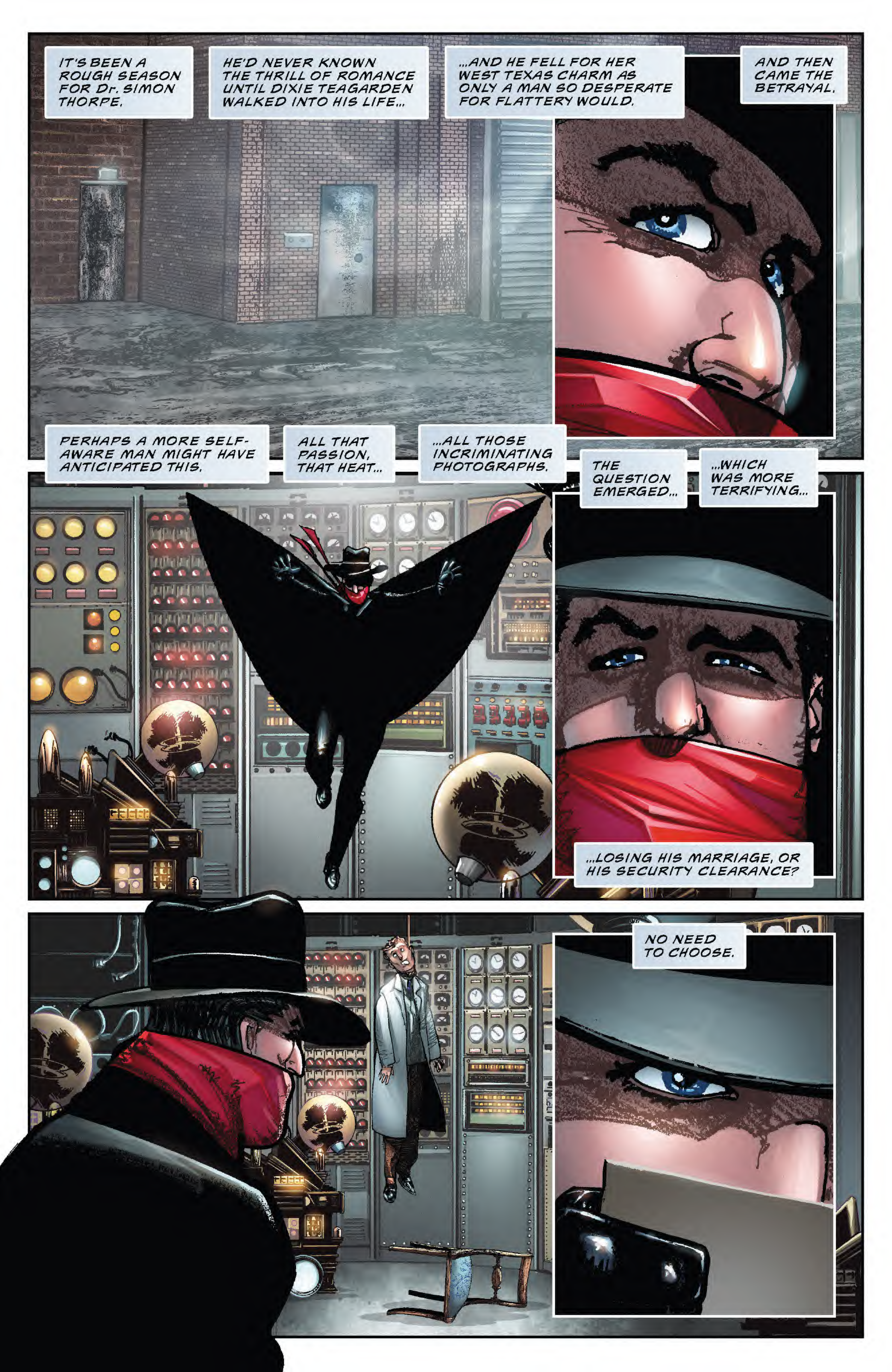
THEN INTRODUCTIONS ARE UNNECESSARY.
I ALSO UNDERSTAND YOU'VE HAD A SPECIAL REQUEST IN THESE PAST FEW WEEKS.
ONLY REQUEST I'D CALL SPECIAL CAME FROM A BIG BLONDE COWGIRL...
I'M LISTENING...
...HAD ME SEND THE PACKAGE ON TO A PARIS ADDRESS...
I'M TOLD YOU'RE THE MAN TO SEE ABOUT MINIATURES.
I MAKE DOLLHOUSE FURNITURE, F'HEAVENS SAKE.
SO I GATHER.
EY--
--DON'TCHA WANT TO KNOW THE ADDRESS?


NOW WHAT DID YOU CALL THAT TACTIC?
TACTIC? I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN...
DON'T BE DISINGENUOUS, DIXIE.
OH, YOU MEAN MUTT 'N' JEFF?
OF COURSE-- THE CARTOON STRIP CHARACTERS.
NOW IF ONLY YOUR BOYFRIEND WOULD WORK A BIT FASTER...

LIKE HE SAID, HE'S DOIN' THE BEST HE CAN, AS FAST AS HE CAN.
AND I THINK HE'S DISSEMBLING.
IF THAT MEANS WHAT I THINK IT MEANS, FERGET IT...

...THORPEY'S TOO SCARED OF YOU AND TOO CRAZY ABOUT ME TO SEMBLE, DIS, ASS, OR OTHERWISE.
THE THINGS YOU DO TO THE MOTHER TONGUE.


SILLY BOY--
YOU BRITS MIGHTA MADE IT UP--
--BUT IT'S AMERICA OWNS ENGLISH NOW, HONEY PIE.


IT'S BEEN A ROUGH SEASON FOR Dr. SIMON THORPE.
HE'D NEVER KNOWN THE THRILL OF ROMANCE UNTIL DIXIE TEAGARDEN WALKED INTO HIS LIFE...
...AND HE FELL FOR HER WEST TEXAS CHARM AS ONLY A MAN SO DESPERATE FOR FLATTERY WOULD.
AND THEN CAME THE BETRAYAL.
PERHAPS A MORE SELF-AWARE MAN MIGHT HAVE ANTICIPATED THIS.
ALL THAT PASSION, THAT HEAT...
...ALL THOSE INCRIMINATING PHOTOGRAPHS.
THE QUESTION EMERGED...
...WHICH WAS MORE TERRIFYING...
...LOSING HIS MARRIAGE, OR HIS SECURITY CLEARANCE?
NO NEED TO CHOOSE.

Paris.

AH, THE IRONY OF IT ALL.

LONDON SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDED ITSELF AGAINST A NEARLY NIGHTLY BARRAGE OF BOMBS FROM THE LUFTWAFFE...

YOU *SURE* YOU KNOW WHERE YER *GOIN'*, SAINT SWEETIE?

OF *COURSE* I KNOW WHERE I'M GOING.

...WHILE PARIS ROLLED OVER AND TOOK THE GERMAN INVASION LIKE A CHEAP WHORE.

RELAX, SAINT...

FIVE YEARS AFTER THE BLITZ, LONDON IS STILL OPERATING UNDER WARTIME SHORTAGES AND DESPAIR...

...WHILE FIVE YEARS AFTER THE OCCUPATION, PARIS IS SLEEK, WELL-FED AND ON TOP OF THE WORLD.

...NO *NEED* TO GET ALL *HINKY* ON ME, DARLIN'.

NO WONDER THE ENGLISH HATE THE FRENCH.

LEST YOU THINK *OTHERWISE*, "DARLIN'," THAT TEXAS *CHARM* HAS LONG WORN *OFF*...

...AND THAT MERCILESS *TWANG*, IS BEGINNING TO GET ON MY *NERVES*.

IS THAT A *FACT*?

WELL, *MAYBE* IF YOU HAD SOME *IDEA* WHERE WE WERE *S'POSED* TO BE...

FOR THE MAN KNOWN TO THE WORLD AS THE SHADOW...
...a.k.a. LAMONT CRANSTON...
...NÉ KENT ALLARD...
...THE CLOUDING OF MEN'S MINDS REMAINS A SINGULAR PLEASURE.
<LADIES...>
<...NO NEED TO LEAVE ON MY ACCOUNT.>

McSHEEN'S PARIS BLIND DROPS ADDRESS LED FIRST TO A CUTOUT...

...WHICH LED, IN TURN, TO THE DANGLING CORPSE OF THE LATE Dr. THORPE.

THERE WAS NO MYSTERY AS TO WHERE THE GUILT LAY IN THIS PROBLEM...

...RATHER, THE SHROUD OF MYSTERY CONCEALED THE INTENTIONS OF THESE PURVEYORS OF TREACHERY...

...AND BECLOUDED WHAT CONNECTS THOSE INTENTIONS WITH BENEDICT STARK'S INVESTIGATION INTO WHAT CAN ONLY BE CALLED EXTREME MINIATURIZATION...

...A PUZZLE, THE SOLUTION OF WHICH REMAINS FRUSTRATINGLY OUT OF REACH.

WHERE *IS* EVERYBODY?

MAYBE *THEY* HAD A HARD TIME *FINDING* IT, TOO.

THAT'S *QUITE* ENOUGH, DIXIE.

YOU SAW AS WELL AS I DID...

...SOME *PRANKSTER* WAS PLAYING *GAMES* WITH THE ADDRESSES...

THIS HOUSE HAD A *DIFFERENT* NUMBER WHEN WE PASSED IT THE *FIRST* TIME.

YEP, SAINT-- YOU'RE RIGHT AS RAIN ON *THAT* ONE...

...BUT THAT RAISES A COUPLE O' *QUESTIONS*.

TRUE *ENOUGH*. CLEARLY, OUR FRENCH *COLLEAGUES* HAVE BEEN EITHER ARRESTED OR ALERTED.

YEP.

AND *TWO*...

...*WHO'S* THE WISEACRE PLAYING WITH THE *ADDRESSES*-- AND WITH *US*?

Berlin...
...MORE SPECIFICALLY, WEST BERLIN, THE AMERICAN SECTOR.
FIVE YEARS AFTER THE HUMILIATION OF THEIR DEFEAT AT THE HANDS OF THE ALLIES, THE GERMANS HATE THE RUSSIANS FOR THEIR RAPE AND REVENGE...
...BUT THEY HOLD THE AMERICANS IN CONTEMPT, FOR THEIR CHEWING GUM AND CHOCOLATE BARS...
...NOT TO MENTION THEIR CAPACITY FOR CRIMINAL ENTERPRISE THAT WOULD PUT HITLER'S GANGSTERS TO SHAME.
FULLY ONE THIRD OF THE GOODS INTENDED TO RESCUE BERLIN FROM THE STRANGLE-HOLD IMPOSED BY THE SOVIETS...
URRNGGK!
<DIETER--?>
...THE RENOWNED MARSHALL PLAN...
GUCCCHH!
JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH...

...DISAPPEARED FROM TEMPELHOF...

...INTO THE HANDS OF AMERICAN MILITARY PERSONNEL WITH LARCENOUS PERSONAL PROFIT IN THEIR HEARTS AND MINDS.

...CAN YOU *BELIEVE* THIS, LIEUTENANT?

THIS MOOK'S DRESSED UP LIKE *THE SHADOW*--

WILD BILL *PETROTTA*...

...YOU'VE COME A *LONG* WAY SINCE YOUR DAYS AS A *FOOT SOLDIER* FOR THE *BROOKLYN* SYNDICATE.

HOLY *COW*--IT'S THE REAL THING!

YOU MEAN ALL THAT *CRAP* YOU TOLD ME ABOUT BEIN' A HOOD IN *BROOKLYN*--

BLAM BLAM

BLAM BLAM

--IT WAS FER *REAL*?

DAMN *RIGHT* IT WAS FOR REAL--

BLAM BLAM

BLAM BLAM BLAM

--WHY'N HELL'D I *BOTHER* LYING TO THE LIKES OF A TWO-BIT *GRIFTER* LIKE YOU?

URRNGGL!

GUCCCHH!

YES, *LIEUTENANT*-- YOUR COMMANDING OFFICER WAS A GENUINE *LOWLIFE*...

...A *MINOR* CONTRIBUTOR TO THE DANGEROUS *UNDERWORLD* OF NEW YORK CITY...

...AND THIS IS THE *PRICE* YOU PAY FOR ALLYING *YOURSELF* WITH SUCH ERRANT *SCUM*...

...THANK THE DEVIL YOU *SERVE* FOR THE MERCY OF *UNCONSCIOUSNESS*.

SKONCCH!

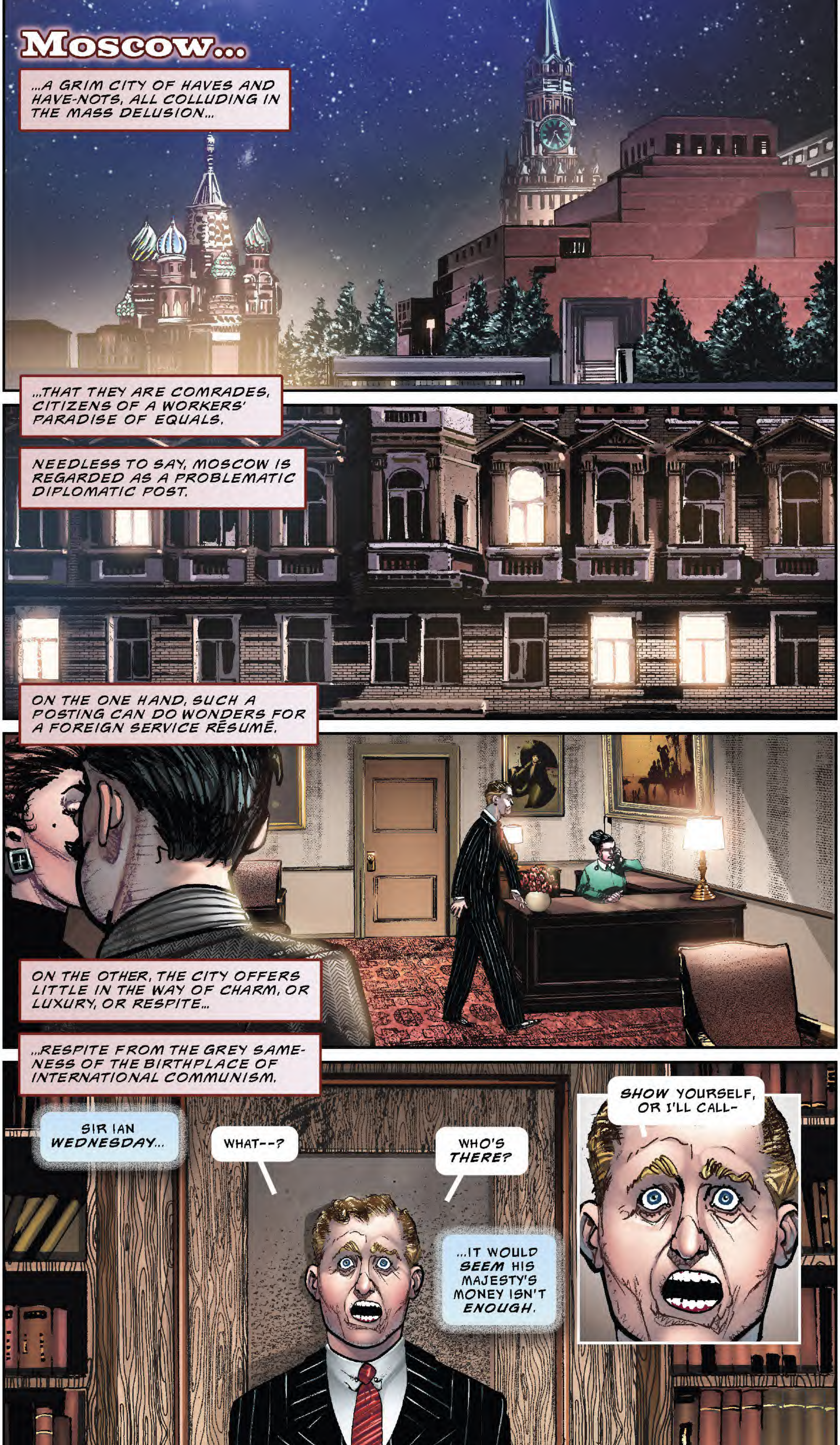
YOU REMAIN A CRIMINAL *AND* A COWARD, PETROTTA, SO CHOOSE *WISELY*.

YOU CAN DIE *NOW*, SUFFERING *SLOWLY*...

...OR YOU CAN GIVE ME THE *DETAILS* OF YOUR SMUGGLING OPERATION...

...IN *PARTICULAR*, YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE *REDS*.

SO--
--IT'S LOOKING LIKE THEY'RE ON TO US.
PERHAPS, BUT DON'T OVER-ESTIMATE THEM...
...THESE PEOPLE COULD NEVER IMAGINE ONE OF THEIR OWN BETRAYING THEIR WORLD VIEW.
MAYBE THAT'S SO IN ENGLAND...
...BUT I'M TALKIN' 'BOUT AMERICA...
YOU'RE SAYING THAT YANKS ARE SMARTER?
NOT HARDLY, SAINT, DOLLFACE...
...AND YOU'RE LETTING THAT TESTY SIDE SHOW AGAIN.
ALL I'M SAYIN' IS THAT SOMEONE--
--LIKELY THIS SHADOW FELLA--
--MIGHT COULD MAKE OUR LIVES A BIT MISERABLE, IF YOU GATHER MY GIST.
HOW IS IT YOU TEXANS PUT IT--
--DON'T WORRY YOUR PRETTY LITTLE HEAD ABOUT IT.


Moscow...
...A GRIM CITY OF HAVES AND HAVE-NOTS, ALL COLLUDING IN THE MASS DELUSION...
...THAT THEY ARE COMRADES, CITIZENS OF A WORKERS' PARADISE OF EQUALS.
NEEDLESS TO SAY, MOSCOW IS REGARDED AS A PROBLEMATIC DIPLOMATIC POST.
ON THE ONE HAND, SUCH A POSTING CAN DO WONDERS FOR A FOREIGN SERVICE RÉSUMÉ.
ON THE OTHER, THE CITY OFFERS LITTLE IN THE WAY OF CHARM, OR LUXURY, OR RESPITE...
...RESPITE FROM THE GREY SAMENESS OF THE BIRTHPLACE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNISM.
SIR IAN WEDNESDAY...
WHAT--?
WHO'S THERE?
...IT WOULD SEEM HIS MAJESTY'S MONEY ISN'T ENOUGH.
SHOW YOURSELF, OR I'LL CALL-

SECURITY?

NOT *LIKELY*, SIR IAN.

A MORE *REASONABLE* SCENARIO MIGHT INCLUDE SUICIDE.

SUICIDE?

QUITE RIGHT.

IT WOULD SEEM *REASONABLE* THAT A MAN WITH YOUR POTENTIAL, YOUR *POSITION*...

...WOULD *BETRAY* YOUR COUNTRY FOR MONEY.

I *NEVER*--

DON'T *BORE* ME WITH NONSENSE, WEDNESDAY.

YOU HAVE A *HAND* IN A CONSPIRACY OF *TREASON*...

...AND THE *ONLY* WAY YOU'RE GOING TO SURVIVE THIS ACT OF *PERFIDY* IS TO DO PRECISELY AND EXACTLY WHAT I *SAY*.

End Part Four

DYNAMITE®

IN THE NEWS - SEPTEMBER 2014

DYNAMITE SIGNS RON MARZ TO NEW ONGOING *JOHN CARTER: WARLORD OF MARS* SERIES; BURROUGHS' ICONIC HERO RETURNS TO COMICS WITH NEW #1 LAUNCH IN NOVEMBER!

Ron Marz is blasting off to the red planet as Dynamite delivers *John Carter: Warlord of Mars* to eager fans of Edgar Rice Burroughs' classic character. The new series comes hot off the heels of Dynamite's recent partnership expansion with the Burroughs' estate allowing for all-new adventures set in the iconic vison of Mars. Marz's enthusiasm for John Carter has been building for many years. He says, "This is literally a job I've been wanting to do since I was twelve years old. I was just the right age when I discovered John Carter, Dejah Thoris, Tars Tarkas, and the wonder of Edgar Rice Burroughs' Mars. It fired my imagination like almost nothing else. So to finally get a chance to write these characters, to visit that world, is a dream come true for me."

JUSTIN GRAY, WRITER OF *JONAH HEX*, RIDES INTO DYNAMITE WITH A THRILLING NEW CHAPTER IN *THE LONE RANGER*'S HISTORY!

The Lone Ranger rides again, and this time he's getting some help from a fellow veteran of the wild west; Justin Gray. The fan-favorite writer of All-Star Western from DC Comics has come aboard ready to pull-out all the stops on a brand new Lone Ranger tale that promises to thrill longtime fans and new readers alike. It's the perfect time to saddle up with Silver, Tonto and The Lone Ranger himself. This new series is not to be missed!

DYNAMITE TO PUBLISH WILL EISNER'S THE SPIRIT; ICONIC CHARACTER ADDED TO DYNAMITE'S PUBLISHING SLATE IN TIME FOR THE SPIRIT'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY!

Thanks to a new licensing agreement with The Will Eisner estate, the original noir-fueled hero has a new home at Dynamite Entertainment. The Spirit is celebrating 75 years of four colored fanfare by joining Dynamite's lineup of top notch Pulp Icons of the past. "Bringing *The Spirit* to Dynamite is a dream come true. Actually, that's not a strong enough sentiment. It's a lifelong dream come true," says Nick Barrucci, CEO and Publisher of Dynamite Entertainment. "The Spirit is one of comicdom's greatest characters, and has stood the test of time for nearly 75 years. Will is one of the greats, and his influence as a storyteller is incredible. I've loved all of Will's work from *The Spirit* to his graphic novels from *A Contract with God* to*The Dreamer*, and his entire body of work. This is a huge responsibility that we've undertaken as there have been some great creators involved in *The Spirit* throughout the seven decades of his career."

ACCLAIMED WRITER CULLEN BUNN WRITES *MASKS II*, AN EPIC COMIC BOOK EVENT UNITING CLASSIC PULP HEROES!

Following the success of the bestselling 2012 *Masks* miniseries, Dynamite is set to deliver another pulse-pounding dose of Pulp action with *Masks II*. This time fan-favorite writer Cullen Bunn (*Deadpool*, *Magneto*) is stepping up to the plate to serve as scribe for this next exciting chapter of Dynamite's major Pulp crossover event. *Masks II* will be solicited in an upcoming release of Diamond Comic Distributors' Previews catalog, the premiere source of merchandise for the comic book specialty market. Comic book fans are encouraged to reserve copies of *Masks II* with their local comic book retailers. *Masks II* will also be available for individual customer purchase through digital platforms courtesy of Comixology, iVerse, and Dark Horse Digital.

DYNAMITE HAILS TO THE KING WITH *ARMY OF DARKNESS* #1992.1, THE DOUBLE-SIZED CELEBRATION OF THE ULTIMATE EXPERIENCE IN MEDIEVAL TERROR!

Dynamite Entertainment is inviting fans everywhere to join the celebration with a very special *Army of Darkness* tale, dedicated by its issue number to honor the year of the original cult film's release. *Army of Darkness* #1992.1 will be a commemorative square-bound edition, featuring short stories of demon-hunting hero Ash Williams written by the series' greatest terror talents of issues past, including Steve Niles, Elliott Serrano, Cullen Bunn, James Kuhoric, and Mike Raicht. *Army of Darkness* #1992.1 celebrates the history of Dynamite's publishing by inviting many of its most notable writers to contribute short vignettes. Army of Darkness fans simply can't afford to miss this one-of-a-kind issue!

GAIL SIMONE TACKLES DYNAMITE'S FIRST-EVER FEMALE-CENTRIC CROSSOVER EVENT, FEATURING *VAMPIRELLA*, *RED SONJA*, *DEJAH THORIS*, AND MORE!

Fans have been demanding a book staring ALL of Dynamite's leading ladies for years, and soon the wait will come to an end! Who else but Gail Simone could bring together Red Sonja, Vampirella, and Dejah Thoris under one title? No one that's why this brand-new event with see all three of Dynamite's lethal ladies team up with each other and even more characters from Dynamite's Universe for what promises to be loads of action and tons of fun. "After working so closely with Gail on *Legends of Red Sonja*, I am excited to see where we'll be going next with this epic character crossover," says Molly Mahan, Associate Editor of Dynamite. "The concept of a *Women of Dynamite* series has been something we've been circling around for a while now, but had to wait for the right concept and creators to come together to make the story as worthwhile as the concept. We are lucky to have Gail as the cornerstone on this project and I know we'll craft something that the fans and comics community will enjoy across demographics."

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NEXT ISSUE:

ISSUE #5
The Doomsday Clock ticks ever closer to Midnight--and only the SHADOW and his faithful companion MARGO LAINE can hope to hold back the hour of annihilation...

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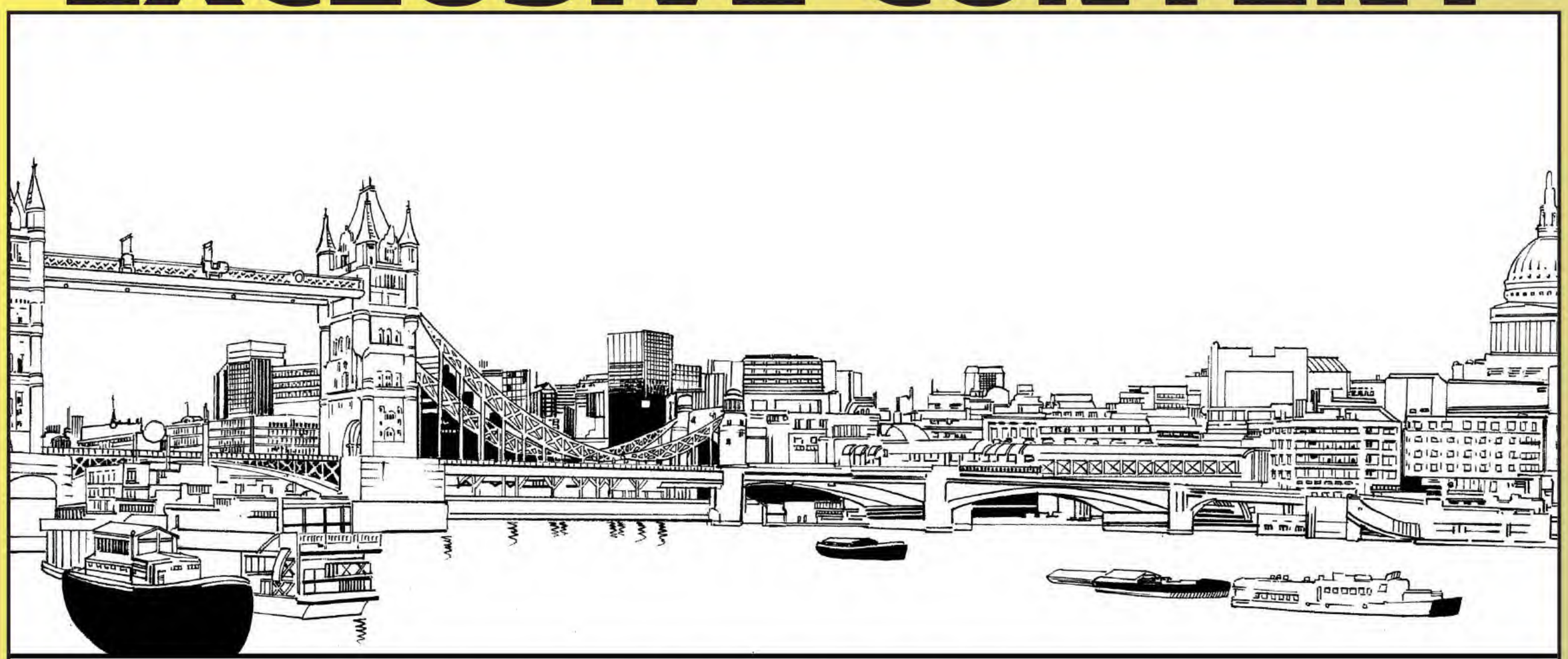

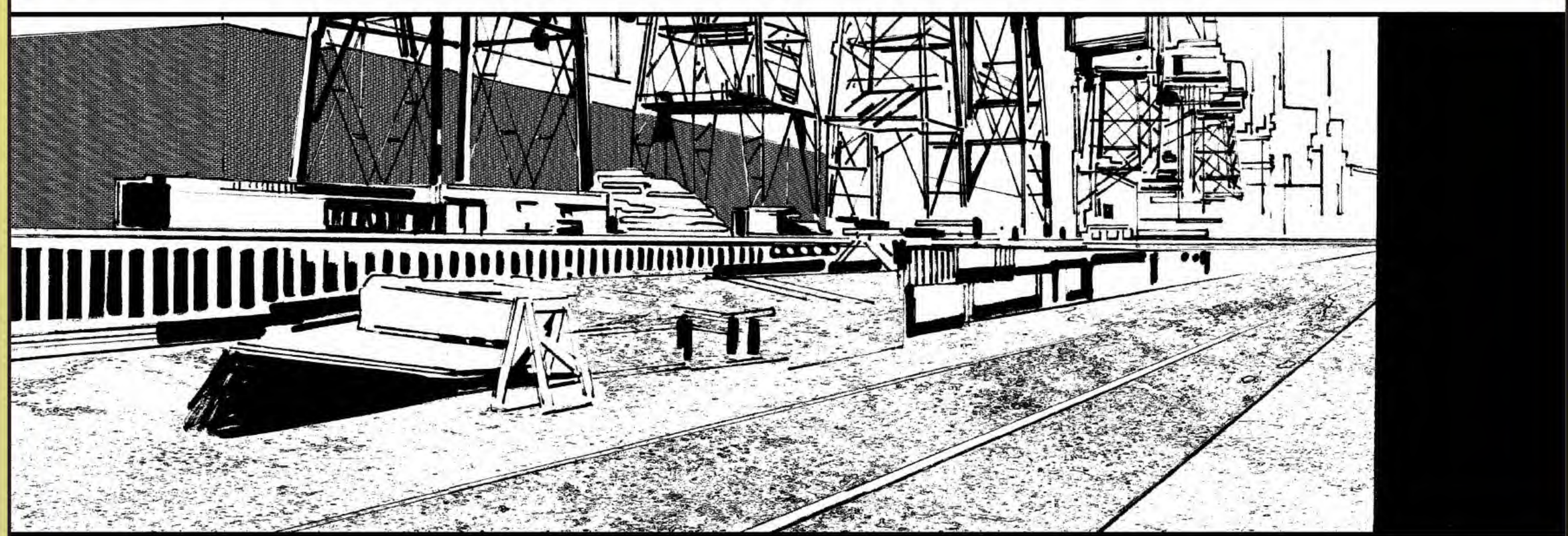

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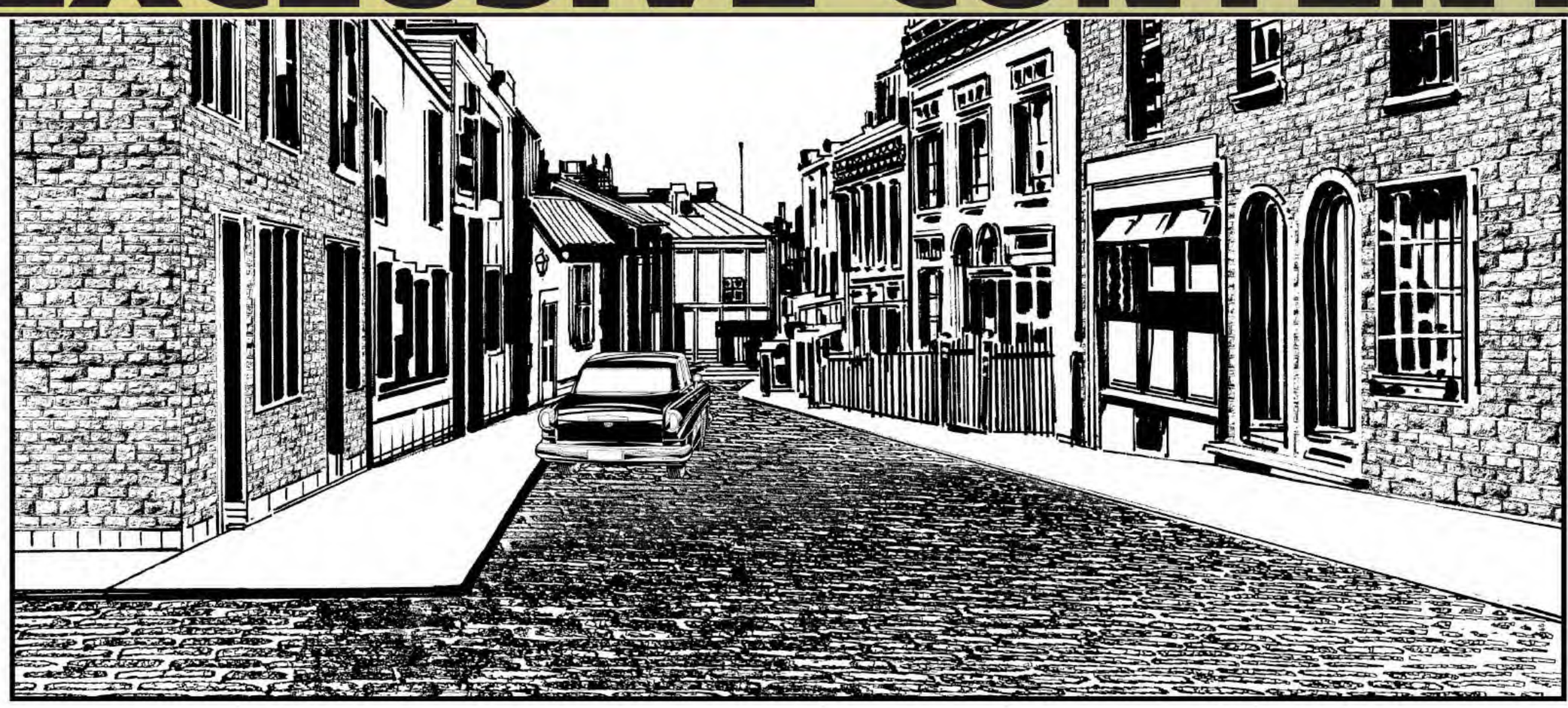

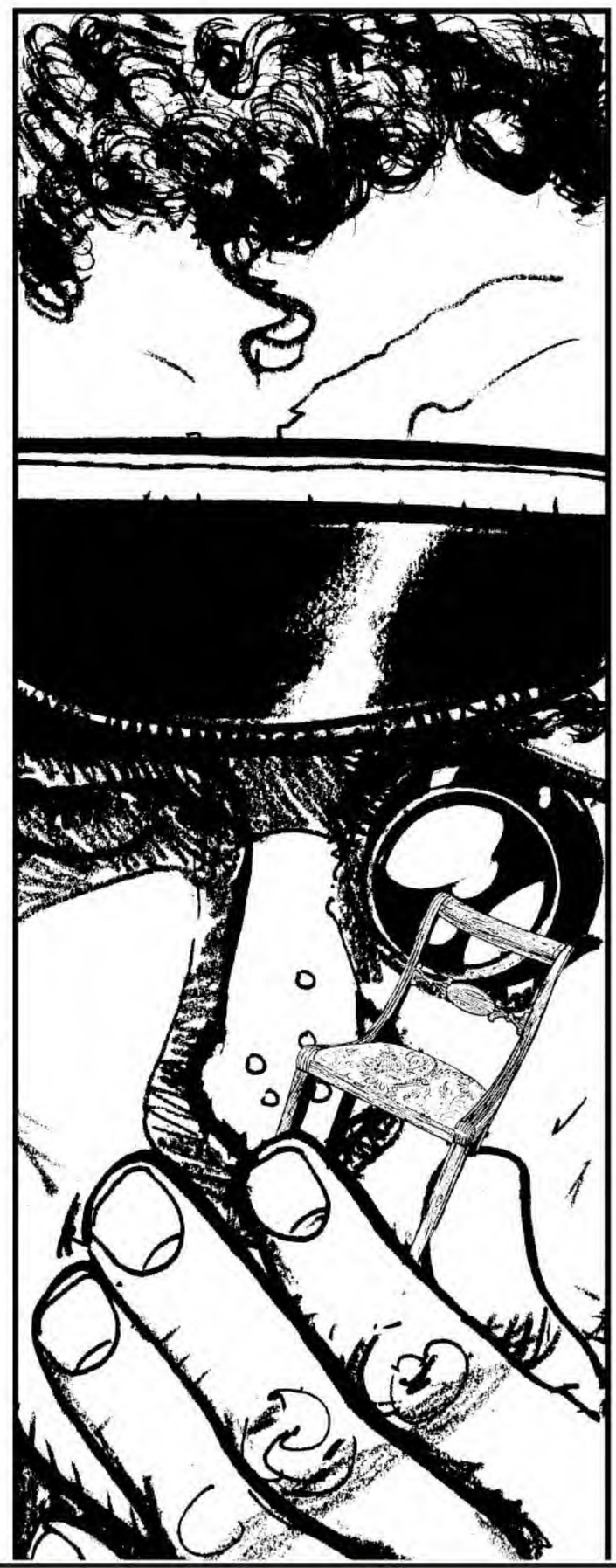

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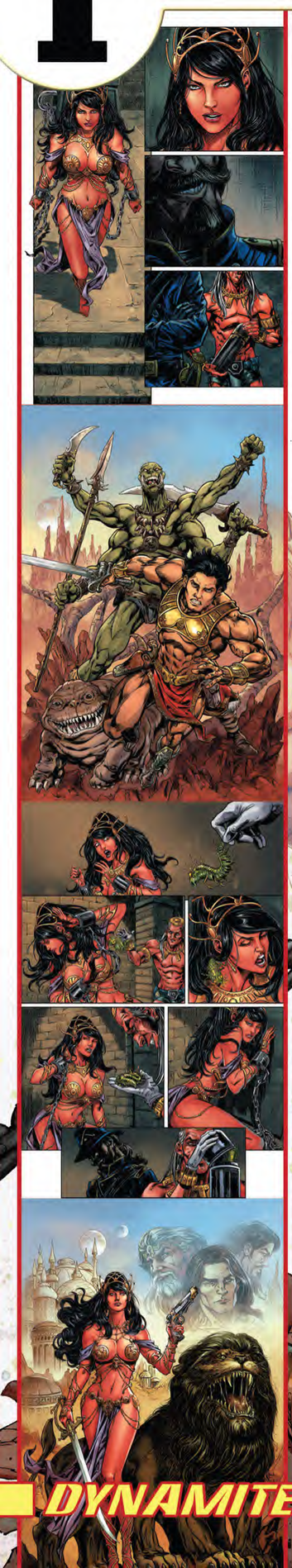

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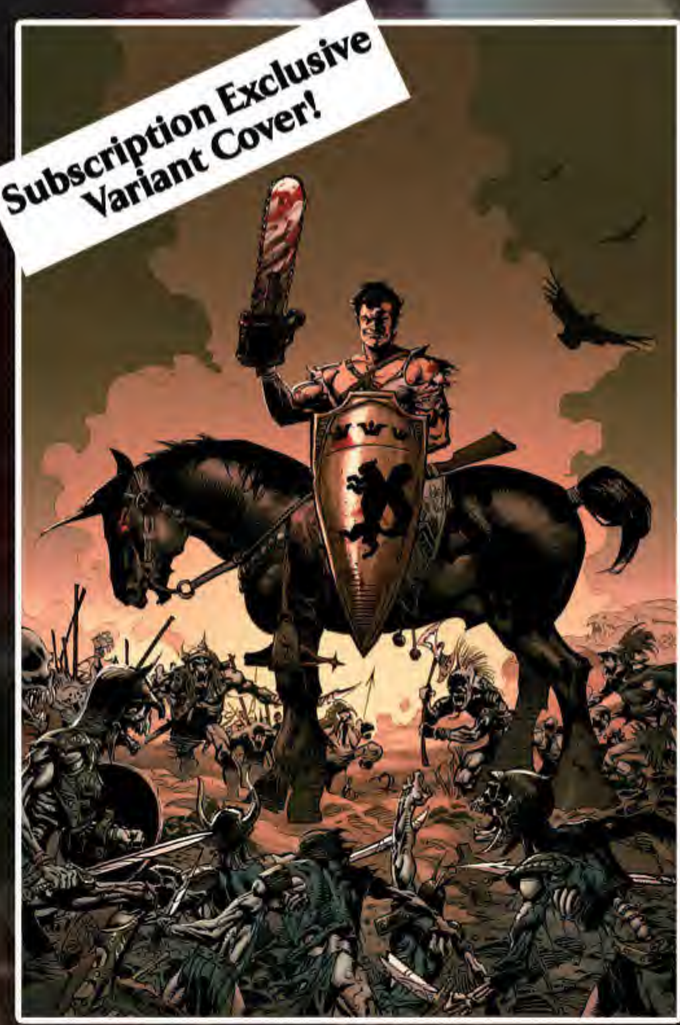

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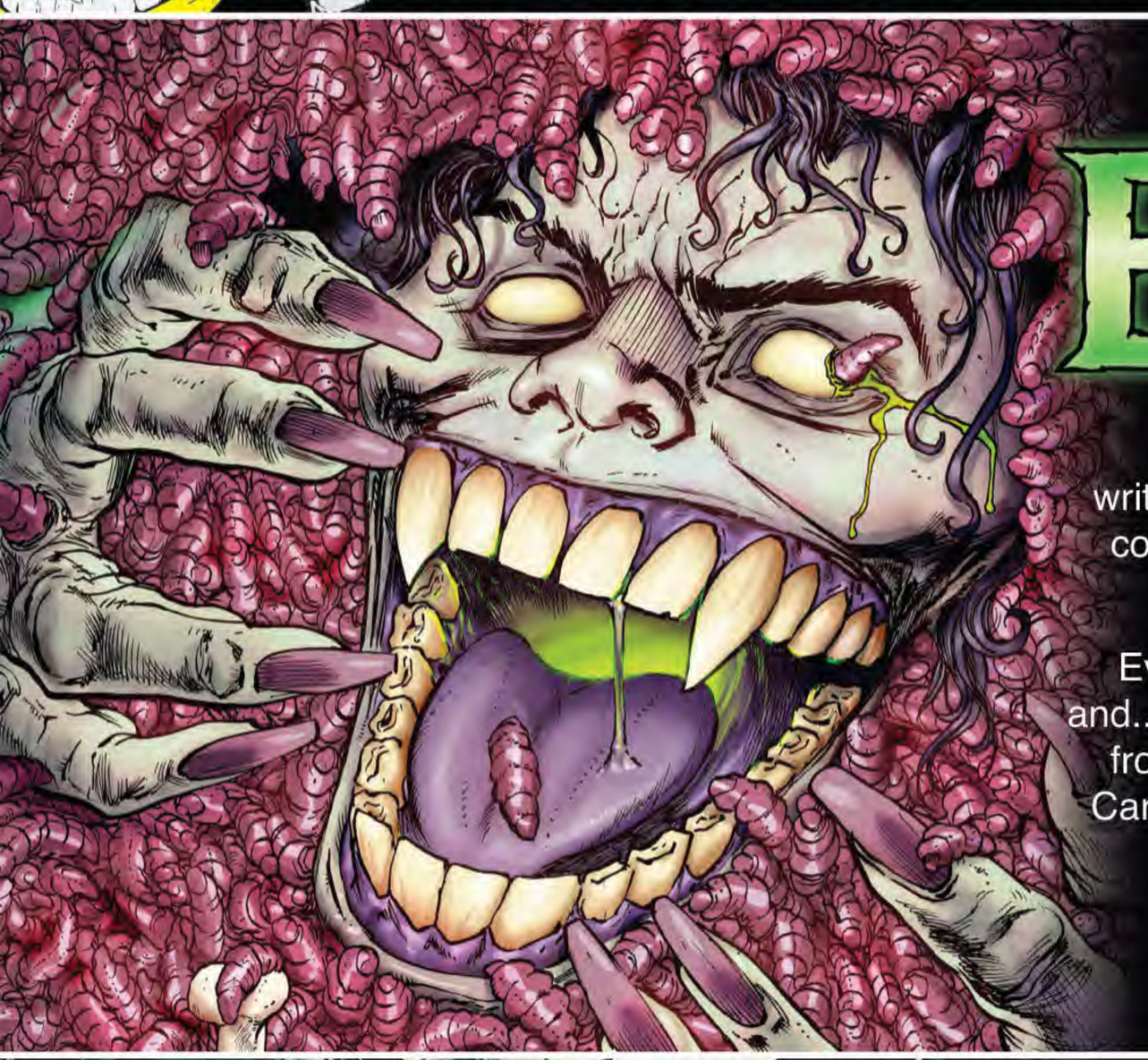

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written by **TIM & STEVE SEELEY** art by **RAFAEL LANHELLAS**
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Evil Ernie has accepted his new position as servant of Lucifur and...savior of the world? It's up to the undead teenage psychopath from hell to protect the innocent from Mistress Hel's new lover, Carrion Jane! Will Ernie's new "ally" survive to protect the world?

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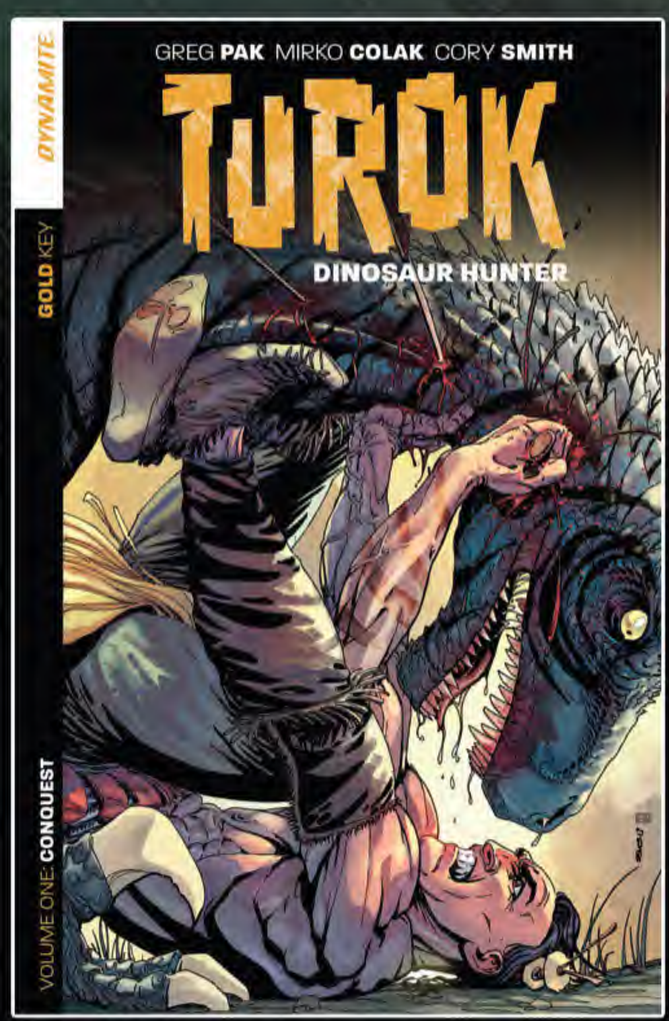

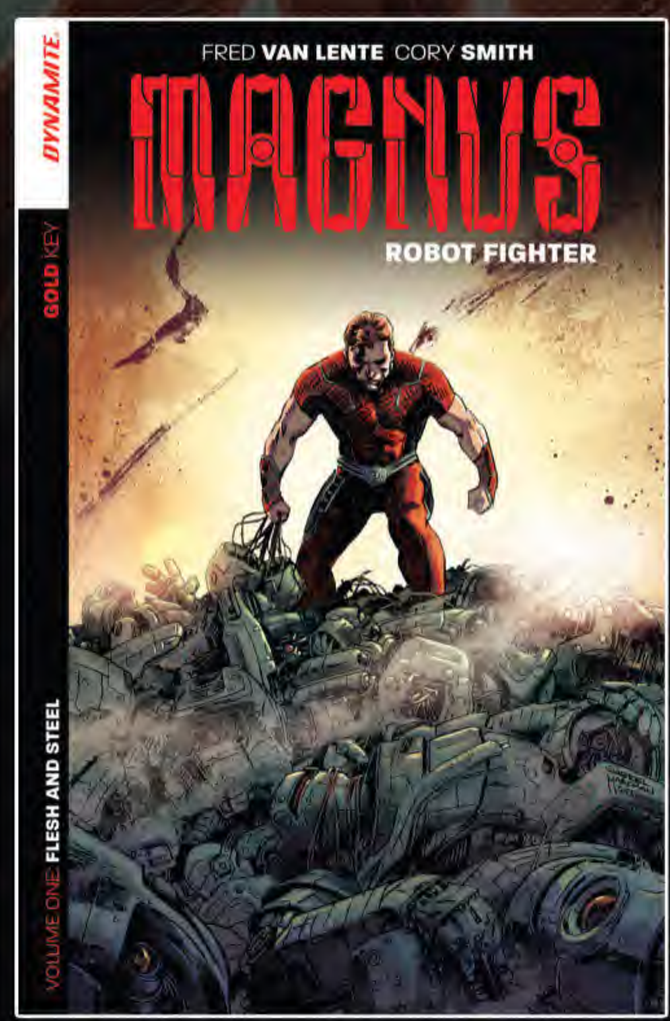

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